

Mayor Amy Viering called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 3, 2011. Roll Call. Present: Aldermen Retha Elston, Skip Lee, Linda Marley, Joe Martin, and Lou Sotelo. Absent: Alderman Barry Cox.

Also present were City Attorney Ron Coplan, City Manager Scott Shumard, Interim Fire Chief Gary Cook, Police Chief Ron Potthoff, Director of Financial Services Cindy Von Holten, Building and Zoning Services Coordinator Mike Wolber, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There were no communications from visitors.

Alderman Lee made a motion to approve the items on the Consent Agenda, as follows:

- A) City Council Minutes of December 20, 2010
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$769,534.42
- C) Refer the Proposed Amendment of the Sign Code to Plan Commission for a public hearing
- D) Refer a request from Sterling Public Schools to Plan Commission for Special Use Permit to erect signs on public right-of-way
- E) Send a letter of no objection to Whiteside County on a petition from Wahl Clipper Corporation to rezone property from County A-1 (Agricultural) to County I-1 (Industrial)

The motion was seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Marley made a motion to award the bid for street reconstruction/ERP Grant for West Third Street from Avenue C to Avenue G to Twin City Construction for Alternate B in the amount of \$679,181.49; seconded by Alderman Martin. Manager Shumard explained the engineer requested bids for asphalt and concrete. Traditionally, concrete is more expensive but reduces future maintenance costs. Alternate B, with concrete reconstruction, is 12.3% under the engineers estimate. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve Partial Pay Request for Streetscape Phase IX to Northwest Illinois Construction in the amount of \$1,359.85; seconded by Alderman Sotelo. Work on this project has been suspended until the spring of 2011. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Chief Potthoff reported Lt. Fargher is presenting a Criminal Housing Seminar that is free to landlords on January 10 and 11.

Mayor Viering announced the Riverfront Development meeting on Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at Woodlawn Arts Academy starting at 6:00 p.m. Saturday, January 8 is the Municipal Band's Pops Concert. Mayor Viering wished everyone a happy new year and thanked the Police Department for keeping the citizens safe throughout the holidays.

Manager Shumard reported that Public Works crews worked through Christmas Eve and Christmas Day in consecutive 12 hour shifts to clear the streets and thanked them for their diligence.

Alderman Elston asked what can be done about the potholes on East Lincolnway. Manager Shumard explained that the road is the responsibility of the contractor who will be reconstructing it this spring. The holes are difficult to patch during the winter season.

Alderman Elston thanked the Plan Commission for their hard work on the sign code. Plan Commission Chair John Stauter was introduced. Stauter reported they have worked on the sign code for ten months and are ready for the public hearing.

With no further business to discuss, Alderman Martin made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Marie Rombouts  
City Clerk